from the State Government of Karnataka, 3418 children have been mainstreamed into formal schools since 1999-2000. These children have been mainstreamed from the special schools being run under the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) launched by the Government in 7 districts through 190 special schools of 50 children each.

Identification of child labour is a continuous process and the State Government has issued directions to speed up the process. According to the survey conducted by the State Government, 6184 child labour have been identified to be working in hazardous occupations.

Under the scheme of NCLP, five projects at Raichur, Bijapur, Dharwad, Bangalore Rural Dist., and Bangalore Urban Dist., in the state of Karnataka have been sanctioned for the coverage of 9,500 children withdrawn from work. An amount of Rs. 4,09,36,000/- has been allocated for the current financial year.

Plan for Skill Upgradation of Workers

977. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state whether Government had any comprehensive plan for skill upgradation of construcsion, forest and agricultural workers in view of the globalization privatization and modernization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): There is no comprehensive plan for Skill Upgradation of Construction, Forest and Agricultural Workers. However, training in some trades relating to construction, forest and agricultural sectors such as Mason, Plumber, cane willow & Bamboo workers, Mechanic Tractor, Mechanic Agricultural Machinery and Pump operator-cum-Mechanic are imparted under Craftsmen Training Programme conducted by Industrial Training Institutes and Centres.

Industrial Sickness

978. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that RBI study had pointed out that management

failure is responsible for 65 per cent of the industrial sickness that labour which is only 3 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any remedial measures to improve the industrial health on the basis of this report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) RBI has not conducted any study on industrial sickness in the recent past. However, on the basis of the annual returns submitted by the scheduled commercial banks, RBI has estimated that as on March 2001, in respect of 3317 non SSI units (for which information is available), 45.3 per cent of the industrial sickness has been due to management failure and 3.4 per cent has been to labour related problems.

(c) Industrial health hs been adversely affected by the slow down in domestic and external demands and due to infrastructural constraints. Some of the major schemes announced in the union Budget 2002-03 such as the PM's Gram Sadak Yojana. Infrastructure Equity Fund and Urban Reform Incentive Fund are lileky to boost demand and have a favourable impact on the industrial scenario. Apart from this, in so far as the rehabilitation of sick/weak units is concerned, the RBI is issuing elaborate guidelines to enable early detection of industrial sickness and extension of relief and concessions to the viable units.

Statutory dues of workers in CPSUs

979. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group of Ministers, constituted for liquidating the statutory dues of workers in CPSUs is still functional;

(b) if so, the number of meetings held by the GoM and the actual status of dues before the formation of the Group and as per ther latest figure available alongwith details viz. wages, P.F., gratuity etc; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Four meetings of the Group